GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3716
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2000
APPOINTMENT OF EXPERT COMMITTEES TASK FORCE
SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government have recently appointed Expert Committee/Task Force to look intothe major problems being faced by the drugs, chemicals and fertilizers segments;

(b)if so, the details in this regard;

(c)the details of reports submitted by these committees and the recommendations made therein; and

(d)the details of fresh strategies worked out and to make India a global destination for Research and Development in Pharma Sector?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(Shri RAMESH BAIS)

(a) to (d):

(i) Government had, in March,1999, constituted a Drug Price Control ReviewCommittee to review the drug price control mechanism and to suggest alternative models, if any, with a view to reducing the rigours of price control where they had become counter-productive. This Committee has submitted its report.

(ii) Government had, in March,1999, also constituted a Pharmaceutical Research &Development Committee to recommend measures to strengthen the Research & Development capability of the Pharmaceutical Industry in the country and to identifythe support required by Indian Pharmaceutical Companies to undertake domesticR&D. The report of the Committee is with the Government.

(iii) In November, 1999 the Government constituted a Task Force on Pharmaceuticalsand Knowledge-based industries under the Chairmanship of the Minister for HumanResource Development to, interalia, evaluate the status of the PharmaceuticalIndustry in India and to identify the strategy required to enable this industry to become a world leader.

(iv) A Task Force was constituted by the Department of Fertilizers to consider using the abundant reserves of coal in the country as feedstock for the production of Fertilizers.